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Rhoda et al.

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(54) **EXPANDABLE VERTEBRAL PROSTHESIS**

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This patent is subject to a terminal dis-
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(58) **Field of Classification Search**

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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

The present invention relates to an expandable prosthetic implant device for engagement between vertebrae generally comprising an inner member, outer member, and gear member positioned coaxial with respect to each other such that the inner and outer members are moveable relative to each other along an axis. The gear member is axially fixed to the outer member and freely rotatable with respect to the outer member and the gear member threadedly engages a threaded portion of the inner member to translate inner member along the axis. The implant is configured to engage the vertebrae in a predetermined alignment and the gear member includes gear teeth exposed to the exterior and configured to be accessible by a tool member at a plurality of angular positions around the perimeter of the implant device.

19 Claims, 10 Drawing Sheets

